

# KOL MEVASSER



## The Light of Torah: Simchat Torah & Shabbat Beresheet

Rabbi Daniel Bouskila, SEC

One of the most beautiful moments in Jewish life takes place on Simchat Torah. Just as we conclude the annual cycle of Torah readings, with the scroll rolled all the way to the end, we immediately bring another Torah to the tevah (reader's table), this time a Torah scroll rolled all the way to the beginning. As we conclude, we begin again, sending the powerful message that there is no "end" to Torah study. Just as we conclude yet another cycle of Torah portions, we immediately start over. We don't close the Torah and put it away, rather we express our commitment to the continuity of the Torah.

As we enter this special moment this week, let us begin with an overview of each of the Five Books in the Torah, as seen by our tradition.

When God began to create the world, and saw that the world was dark, He spoke two words: **"Yehi Or" – Let there be light.** Our sages teach that this was not a physical light; rather it was a light that would ultimately bring spiritual and intellectual enlightenment to the world. Our sages further teach that the moment God pronounced the Hebrew word **"Or" – Light** – God immediately began to write the Torah.

The Midrash develops this theme beautifully by citing the five times the word "Light" is mentioned in the opening verses of the Torah (Genesis 1:3-5), and relating each of the five "lights" to one of the Five Books of the Torah:

1. **"And God said Let there be light"** – This is the light of the Book of Genesis, which brought us the light of creation and the light of Abraham's Monotheism.
2. **"And there was light"** – This is the light of the Book of Exodus, which brought the Jewish people from the darkness of slavery to the light of freedom.
3. **"And God saw that the light was good"** – This is the light of the Book of Leviticus, which brings us closer to worshipping God in the Mishkan, where there shines an Eternal Light.
4. **"And God differentiated between light and darkness"** – This is the light of the Book of Numbers, where God illuminated the path in the wilderness for His people towards the Promised Land of Israel.
5. **"And God named the light daytime"** – This is the light of the Book of Deuteronomy, where the Jewish people heard the illuminating teachings of Moses.

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## KJ Schedule

### Hoshana Raba & Erev Shemini Atzeret Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>

Shaharit/Morning Prayer .... 6:30 am  
Minha /Arbith ..... 5:45 pm  
*Eruv Tavshilin .before candle lighting*  
Candle Lighting ..... 6:01 pm

### Shemini Atzeret & Erev Simhat Torah

#### Thursday, October 16<sup>th</sup>

Shaharit/Morning Prayer .... 8:30 am  
Minha /Arbith ..... 5:45 pm  
Candle Lighting ..... after 7:03 pm

**Simhat Torah Celebration & Hakafot** ..... after evening prayers

### Simhat Torah / Erev Shabbat Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup>

Shaharit/Morning Prayer .... 8:30 am  
Morning Hakafot ..... during services  
Shabbat Candle Lighting..... 5:58 pm  
Minhah/Arbith ..... 5:45 pm

### Shabbat Beresheet

#### Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup>

Shaharit/Morning Prayer .... 8:30 am  
Minha, Seudah, Arvit..... 5:30 pm  
Motzei Shabbat / Havdallah 7:00 pm

### Weekdays

#### Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup>

Shaharit ..... 7:30 am  
KJ Kids Talmud Torah..... 10:00 am

*Mon to Wed, October 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>*  
Shaharit/Morning Prayer .... 6:30 am

### Erev Rosh Hodesh Heshvan

#### Thursday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>

Shaharit / Morning Prayer ... 6:30 am  
Rosh Hodesh begins ..... 5:52 pm

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The Book of Proverbs teaches: **“The Mitzvot are like a lamp, and the Torah is light”** (Proverbs 6:23). When we received the Torah at Mount Sinai, we received the gift of light, and became the bearers of God’s intellectual and spiritual light. It is for this reason that living our lives in the true path of Torah ultimately makes the Jewish people **“A Light unto the Nations.”**

As we enter a new cycle of Torah readings, bring light into your homes, and into the minds and hearts of your loved ones, by discussing the weekly Torah portion at your Shabbat tables. Do so, and you are participating in a discussion that has gone uninterrupted for 3,300 years.

Chag Sameach and Shabbat Shalom

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**Rosh Hodesh Heshvan, Day 1  
& Erev Shabbat**

*Friday, October 24th*

Shaharit / Morning Prayer .....6:15 am  
Candle Lighting .....5:50 pm  
Minha / Arbith .....5:40 pm

**Shabbat Noah &**

**Rosh Hodesh Heshvan, Day 2**

*Saturday, October 25th*

Shaharit .....8:30 am  
Minha, Seudah, Arvit .....5:30 pm  
Motzei Shabbat / Havdallah .....6:52 pm

**We want you to be a member!**  
*Did you join us over the High Holy Days?  
Whatever you spent for tickets will be  
applied towards an annual membership  
in Kahal Joseph. Join our wonderful  
community! Call Sarah at 310.474.0559*

**In Memoriam**

We remember these yearzeit anniversaries for October 16 to 25, 2014. It is customary to light a memorial candle, donate tzedaka, & attend services the preceding Shabbat.

**22 Tishri / Thursday, October 16th**

Ezra Hayim Ezra *Ezra Hayim ben Norman*

Joyce Jacob *Ester bat Sarah*

Solomon Moses *Salman ben Haskel*

**23 Tishri / Friday, October 17th**

Naima Somekh *Naima bat Lulu*

**24 Tishri / Shabbat, October 18th**

Flora Cohen *Farha bat Salha*

Miriam Solomon *Miriam bat Rachel*

**25 Tishri / Sunday, October 19th**

Farha Ezrapour *Farha bat Rachel*

**26 Tishri / Monday, October 20th**

Moshe ben Aharon *Duewk HaCohen*

Irving Saber *Yitzhak ben Aharon*

**27 Tishri / Tuesday, October 21st**

Abraham Kattan *Abraham ben Eliyahu*

**28 Tishri / Wednesday, October 22nd**

Georgina Amron *Girji Hoogi bat Farha*

**29 Tishri / Thursday, October 23rd**

Elias Aslan

David Isaac *David ben Eliyahu Itzhak*

Jack Jonah *Yaakov ben Yitzhak*

**30 Tishri / Friday, October 24th**

Irving Henry Pack *Yitzhak ben Moshe*

**1 Heshvan / Shabbat, October 25th**

Nissan Gad *Nissan ben Avraham*

Joseph Aaron Judah *Yoseph ben Aharon Yehudah*

**Refuah Shlemah**

Moselle Amron • Tilda Levy  
Joseph Sharaf • Maurice Ovadia  
Michael Herzbrun • Saul Sassoon

**12<sup>TH</sup> LOS ANGELES  
SEPHARDIC JEWISH  
FILM FESTIVAL  
OPENING GALA**

**NOVEMBER 9, 2014  
PARAMOUNT PICTURES STUDIOS**

Silent Auction  
Dinner Buffet  
Award Presentation  
Film Competition  
Feature Film Screening  
Dessert Reception

